

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-04 ISO-00 AID-10 /018 R

66610

DRAFTED BY: IO/UNESCO:RDFORSTER

APPROVED BY: SA/DCARDWELL

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R 142004Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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FOR NESCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT ADDIS ABABA 02709 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN
LAGTS NAIROBI USUN 12 MAR

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 02709

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ENRG OAU

SUBJECT: OAU 22ND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MAY RECONVENE
IN KAMPALA

REFS: (A) ADDIS 2266; (B) LAGOS 1925 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING GOOD OAU SOURCES, 22ND COUNCIL OF (FOREIGN) MINISTERS,
WHICH WAS SUSPENDED DURING RECENT ADDIS DISGURBANCES (REFTEL A),
MAYURECONVENE AROUND END OF MARCH. MAJORITY OAU STATES (OF THOSE
THUS FAR HEARD FROM) SAID TO FEEL, CONTRARY TO NIGERIA (REFTEL B),
THAT SUFFICIENT URGENT BUSINESS ON AGENDA TO JUSTIFY EARLY
MEETING. ITEMS CONSIDERED BY SOME MEMBERS TO BE URGENT INCLUDE
(A) SECRET REPORTS OF DEFENSE COMMISSION AND LIBERATION
COMMITTEE AND RELATED AID TO GUINEA-BISSAUT KB) OAU RELATIONS
WITH ARAB LEAGUE AND RELATED OIL QUESTIONS (COVXITTEE OF SEVEN
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REPORT, TRIPOLI RECOMMENDATIONS, LONHRO CONTRACT); (C) AFRICAN

NEGOTIATIONS WITH EEC; AND (D) AFRICAN POSITIONS FOR APRIL UNGA ON RESOURCES.

2. ON VENUE OAU A/SEC GEN ONU TOLD EMBOFF MARCH THAT SECRETARIAT POLLING MEMBERS ON WHETHER THEY WISH TAKE UP GEN. AMIN'S OFFER HOST SESSION IN KAMPALA. ONU NOT RPT NOT SURE MEMBERS WILL AGREE TO TAKE UP OFFER "IN LIGHT RECENT EVENTS THERE."

3. EMBASSY FEELS THAT, IF MEETING TAKES PLACE IN KAMPALA, THERE SUFFICIENT US INTEREST IN AGENDUCITEMS TO JUSTIFY ATTEMPT ON-SPOT COVERAGE. EMBOFF BAZIL BROWN MORE THAN WILLING TO COVER CONFERENCE IN USUAL GUISE (FOR ALL NON-AFRICAN DIPLOMATS) AS FORMALLY ACCREDITED PRSS REPRESENTATIVE. HE COULD TRAVEL ON RFLOMATIC OR RYXULAR PASSPORT. OTHER NON-AFRICAN OAU WATCHERS FROM ADDIS LIKELY TO ATTEND. BELIEF HERE IS THAT AMIN SO EAGER TO HOST OAU MEETING THAT HE UNLIKELY TO CREATE INCIDENTS. HOWEVER, WITH AMIN, ADMITTEDLY, ONE NEVER KNOWS. REQUEST DEPARTMENT POSITION ON SUCH COVERAGE SINCE MEETING MAY WELL BE CALLED ON VERY SHORT NOTICE.

4. QUESTION OF USUAL VOA COVERAGE BY DAVID WILLIAMS, BASED IN NAIROBI, ALSO ARISES.

WYMAN UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, MEETINGS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE051317
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNESCO:RDFORSTER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740343/aaaabnxn.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) ADDIS 2266; (B) LAGOS 1925 (NOTA, L)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <27 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OAU 22ND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MAY RECONVENE IN KAMPALA
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, OAU
To: PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005